

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/620,119

Examiner

Ian N Moore

Applicant(s)

AMBE, MICHIKO

Art Unit

2661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 8-30-2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,6,7,9 and 10, which have been renumbered as 1-7.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 7-20-2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 11-1-2004.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


BRIAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Response to Amendment

1. Claim objections, on claims 4 is withdrawn since they are being amended accordingly.
2. Claim 1, 9 and 10 are amended to include allowable subject matter recites in claim 5.
3. Claim 5 is cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Myers on November 1, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Claim 1, line 8, replace -- **the** - - with "a", (i.e. ~~the~~ a source terminal)
- Claim 1, line 18, replace -- **said** - - with "a" (i.e. ~~said~~ a requesting switch)
- Claim 1, page 3, line 6, replace -- **the** - - with "a", (i.e. ~~the~~ a non-included logical group)
- Claim 9, line 10, replace -- **said** - - with "a", (i.e. ~~said~~ a source terminal)
- Claim 9, line 12, remove "**the**" (i.e. ~~the~~ requested information)
- Claim 9, line 13, replace -- **third** - - with "**another**", (i.e. ~~third~~ another storage means)
- Claim 9, line 16, replace -- **said** - - with "a", (i.e. ~~said~~ a requesting switch)

- Claim 9, line 17, replace -- **third** - - with “**other**”, (i.e. ~~third~~ other storage means)
- Claim 9, line 19, replace -- **the** - - with “**a**”, (i.e. ~~the~~ a non-included logical group)
- Claim 10, line 10, replace -- **said** - - with “**a**”, (i.e. ~~said~~ a source terminal)
- Claim 10, line 12, remove “**the**”, (i.e. ~~the~~ requested information)
- Claim 10, line 13, replace -- **third** - - with “**another**”, (i.e. ~~third~~ another storage means)
- Claim 10, line 16, replace -- **the** - - with “**a**”, (i.e. ~~the~~ a requesting switch)
- Claim 10, line 17, replace -- **third** - - with “**other**”, (i.e. ~~third~~ other storage means)
- Claim 10, line 19, replace -- **the** - - with “**a**”, (i.e. ~~the~~ a non-included logical group)

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1,2,4,6,7,9 and 10 are allowable over the prior art of record since the cited reference taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose the following limitations.

Regarding claim 1,...a server comprising...third storage means storing a list of the switches being available in the network system, in association with a list of the logical groups...when the query is received from said request switch, said server consult with third storage means to find...and if the relevant is not include the logical group...prevent enrollment of said source terminal in a non-included logical group... in combination with other limitations recited as specified in Claim 1.

Regarding claims 9 and 10...a server comprising...another storage means storing a list of the switches being available in the network system, in association with a list of the logical groups...when the query is received from a request switch, said server consults said other storage means to find...and if the relevant is not include the logical group...prevent enrollment of said source terminal in a non-included logical group... in combination with other limitations recited as specified in Claims 9 and 10.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ian N Moore whose telephone number is 571-272-3085. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ken Vanderpuye can be reached on 571-272-3078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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11/1/04



BRIAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER